



COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

SIXTH FLOOR,
PRUDENTIAL BUILDING,
195 NORTH TERRACE,
ADELAIDE

LIVESTOCK

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

31ST MARCH 1966

SCOPE This bulletin presents information (subject to revision) relating to livestock numbers in South Australia at 31st March 1966 and gives particulars of dairy production, the wool clip, and livestock slaughterings, for the year 1965-66. Most of the details have been compiled from information obtained in the annual collection of agricultural, pastoral, and dairying statistics. Figures for preceding years are shown for comparison.

COMMENT Sheep and pig numbers at 31st March 1966 were the highest ever recorded in South Australia, exceeding the previous records in 1965 by 703,500 and 27,500 respectively. Cattle numbers were 6,500 less than the record number at 31st March 1965.

New records were also reached in the number of lambs marked, and in the production of wool during 1965-66.

Increases in sheep numbers during the year occurred in most parts of the State, especially in the South Eastern and Murray Mallee counties but there were decreases in most of the Lower North Division and in some northern counties of Eyre Peninsula.

LIVESTOCK NUMBERS The numbers of livestock of each kind in South Australia at 31st March of each of the last two years are set out in the following table. Numbers of livestock within each county at 31st March 1966 are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 1 - LIVESTOCK NUMBERS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Classification	31st March 1965	31st March 1966
	'000	
SHEEP		
Under 1 year	3,814.6	4,084.5
1 year and over	13,474.0	13,907.6
Total	17,288.6	17,992.1
CATTLE		
Cows for milk production(a)	189.2	182.4
Other cattle for milk production	72.6	71.5
Cattle for meat production	434.7	436.1
Total	696.5	690.0
PIGS	195.9	223.4

(a) Includes house cows and springing heifers

TABLE 2 - LIVESTOCK NUMBERS IN COUNTIES, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 31st MARCH 1966

DIVISION & County	Cattle For Production of		Sheep		Pigs
	Milk	Meat	Total	Lambs	
CENTRAL					
Adelaide	48,514	14,240	393,846	57,364	17,957
Carnarvon	2,096	10,699	695,763	179,243	2,761
Eyre	2,625	1,217	235,764	52,121	4,999
Fergusson	4,883	9,519	675,091	151,158	12,359
Gawler	4,329	2,407	339,950	62,245	15,019
Hindmarsh	48,462	22,763	618,061	125,873	9,897
Light	8,077	4,123	456,973	98,460	14,194
Sturt	23,155	5,123	414,446	88,688	11,156
Total	142,141	70,091	3,829,894	815,152	88,342
LOWER NORTH					
Burra	583	1,730	287,145	76,854	353
Daly	3,912	3,812	551,171	106,192	21,642
Kimberley	277	384	91,525	22,025	136
Stanley	6,037	7,958	670,722	170,928	13,015
Victoria	3,629	5,364	490,146	124,528	12,283
Total	14,438	19,248	2,090,709	500,527	47,429
UPPER NORTH					
Blachford	71	1,171	51,525	11,782	50
Dalhousie	1,666	2,496	275,359	75,039	1,960
Derby & Lytton	16	383	52,696	11,352	-
Frome	2,368	2,788	318,285	71,066	4,045
Granville	77	606	74,878	18,610	4
Hanson	48	285	73,625	19,405	42
Herbert	36	745	88,317	23,981	18
Newcastle	218	1,261	100,792	24,771	232
Taunton	16	1,954	78,067	20,416	-
Total	4,516	11,689	1,113,544	276,422	6,351
SOUTH EASTERN					
Buckingham	4,957	21,370	930,650	238,228	3,996
Cardwell	1,193	13,884	425,448	104,600	783
Grey	45,976	94,928	1,651,302	401,963	11,067
MacDonnell	4,238	29,438	907,380	184,767	2,221
Robe	7,183	54,251	1,593,347	333,304	3,024
Total	63,547	213,871	5,508,127	1,262,862	21,091
WESTERN					
Bosanquet	46	12	50,021	11,470	97
Buxton	345	1,057	147,809	36,089	1,639
Dufferin	182	374	97,132	22,623	774
Flinders	2,103	5,406	565,813	114,551	5,317
Hopetoun	64	36	25,265	4,898	28
Hore-Ruthven	2	717	76,084	15,483	-
Jervois	1,605	2,554	567,057	135,293	3,761
Kintore	139	108	41,666	8,559	141
Le Hunte	550	1,242	180,603	42,391	5,422
Manchester	-	323	59,302	10,581	-
Musgrave	694	1,858	332,809	72,710	1,568
Robinson	701	831	262,201	57,864	4,035
Way	278	339	98,244	26,489	1,395
York	218	65	48,690	8,021	1,541
Total	6,927	14,922	2,552,696	567,022	25,718
MURRAY MALLEE					
Albert	1,956	880	237,892	50,225	3,657
Alfred	1,617	1,965	198,642	49,161	5,197
Buccleuch	2,802	5,704	600,837	141,132	9,640
Chandos	1,145	1,149	347,133	69,227	8,176
Hamley	1,339	369	79,594	17,589	1,460
Russell	13,229	8,576	300,495	75,899	5,939
Young	81	591	50,030	8,083	330
Total	22,169	19,234	1,814,623	411,316	34,399
OUTSIDE OF COUNTIES					
North-Eastern	77	31,554	372,824	84,397	3
Northern	20	11,339	224,794	40,344	-
North-Western	42	44,155	484,894	126,442	55
Total	139	87,048	1,082,512	251,183	58
STATE TOTAL	253,877	436,103	17,992,105	4,084,484	223,388

SHEEP AND LAMBS The number of sheep and lambs at 31st March 1966 was 17,992,100 being 703,500 more than the previous record number in March 1965.

TABLE 3 - NUMBER OF SHEEP AND LAMBS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Classification	At 31st March				
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
	'000				
Rams	189.7	195.5	199.2	207.9	217.9
Breeding ewes	7,531.5	7,257.6	7,545.1	7,938.2	8,165.0
Other ewes	785.6	812.0	772.4	812.5	830.6
Wethers	4,109.5	4,144.3	4,277.0	4,515.4	4,694.1
Lambs	3,798.2	3,328.1	3,608.8	3,814.6	4,084.5
Total	16,414.5	15,737.5	16,402.5	17,288.6	17,992.1

TABLE 4 - BREEDS OF SHEEP, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Breed	At 31st March				
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
	'000				
Merino	13,772.3	13,152.7	13,897.1	14,581.2	14,980.3
Corriedale	932.7	943.7	923.0	1,003.2	1,092.9
Polwarth	81.8	88.5	80.8	99.8	104.0
Other & unspecified breeds	134.4	128.1	117.3	115.0	119.8
Merino Comeback	306.4	285.8	257.7	284.2	260.7
Crossbred	1,186.9	1,138.7	1,126.6	1,205.2	1,434.4
Total	16,414.5	15,737.5	16,402.5	17,288.6	17,992.1

During 1965 there were 7,505,000 ewes mated, from which 5,953,700 lambs were marked, the numbers being higher by 313,600 and 215,000 respectively than those for the previous year. The lambing percentage was 79.33; the highest lambing percentage recorded in South Australia was 79.93 in 1956.

TABLE 5 - LAMBING, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Particulars	Unit	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Ewes mated	'000	7,076.1	6,933.9	6,850.3	7,191.4	7,505.0
Lambs marked	'000	5,644.4	5,443.4	5,402.3	5,738.7	5,953.7
Lambing percentage	%	79.77	78.51	78.86	79.80	79.33

Farmers indicated that they intended to mate a total of 7,989,000 ewes in 1966; 5,228,000 to Merino, 575,000 to Corriedale and Polwarth, 756,000 to other longwool, and 1,430,000 to shortwool rams.

The estimated wool production in 1965-66 of 229,640,000 lb. is a record, being 13,904,000 lb. more than the previous highest total in 1964-65.

TABLE 6 - SHEEP SHORN AND WOOL PRODUCED, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Particulars	Unit	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66
Sheep and lambs shorn	'000	17,677	17,859	17,636	18,743	19,749
Total clip, crutchings, etc.	'000 lb.	192,205	189,854	94,787	200,059	212,745
Average per fleece	lb.	10.87	10.63	11.04	10.67	10.77
Total wool production (a)	'000 lb.	206,984	207,344	210,500	215,736	229,640(b)
Value of production	\$'000	85,801	92,514	113,409	94,328	103,636(b)
Average price (greasy), Adelaide sales	cent	41.59	44.87	54.22	44.14	46.71

- (a) Includes fellmongered wool, wool exported on skins, and dead wool.
 (b) Preliminary figures.

CATTLE

The following table shows the numbers of cattle in South Australia at 31st March 1964, 1965 and 1966. Although total cattle numbers at 31st March 1966 decreased by 6,500 from the record number of 696,500 at 31st March 1965, the number of cattle for meat production increased by 1,400.

TABLE 7 - CATTLE NUMBERS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Classification	31st March		
	1964	1965	1966
	'000		
CATTLE FOR MILK PRODUCTION			
Cows - In milk	96.7	97.6	92.7
Dry	63.3	61.2	62.3
Heifers - Springing	24.7	23.7	21.2
Other	26.8	25.9	24.6
Bulls (a)	7.2	6.7	6.2
Calves (b) - Bull (a)	2.4	2.1	2.3
Heifer	41.3	37.9	38.4
House cows	7.8	6.7	6.2
Total cattle for milk production	270.2	261.8	253.9
CATTLE FOR MEAT PRODUCTION			
Cows and heifers	221.2	222.5	233.0
Bulls (a)	9.8	9.3	9.5
Calves (b) - Bull (a)	3.0	2.8	2.9
All other	124.0	126.7	118.2
Other cattle	66.1	73.4	72.5
Total cattle for meat production	424.1	434.7	436.1
TOTAL CATTLE	694.3	696.5	690.0

- (a) Used or intended for service.
(b) Under one year.

The production of milk and of cheese during 1965-66 was the second highest on record being exceeded only by the quantities produced in 1964-65.

TABLE 8 - DAIRY PRODUCTION, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Production	Unit	Year ended 30th June				
		1962	1963	1964	1965	1966(a)
Butter	'000 lb.	16,861.1	16,607.7	16,791.3	17,391.6	16,325.8
Cheese	'000 lb.	32,835.4	33,966.9	34,235.7	38,836.1	36,281.1
Bacon and ham	'000 lb.	7,474.8	7,514.3	8,075.8	8,562.3	9,195.3
Total milk production	'000 gal.	95,503.9	95,377.5	97,523.3	102,330.0	99,896.9

- (a) Preliminary figures.

PIGS

Table 9 shows number of pigs in South Australia at 31st March in each of the years 1962 to 1966. The number at 31st March 1966 was 27,500 greater than the previous record number of 195,900 in 1965.

TABLE 9 - NUMBER OF PIGS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Classification	At 31st March				
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
	'000				
Boars	3.4	3.0	3.3	3.8	4.0
Breeding sows	23.9	20.0	22.7	27.9	29.3
All other	142.8	122.0	127.4	164.2	190.1
Total	170.1	145.0	153.4	195.9	223.4

POULTRY

Numbers of poultry at 31st March 1966 were as follows; hens and pullets 1,405,200, other fowls and chickens 752,500, ducks 70,900, turkeys 71,100, geese 17,200. Table poultry sold during the year ended 31st March 1966 totalled 3,071,500. These figures do not include numbers held or sold by persons not included in the Agricultural and Pastoral collection (e.g. keepers of poultry, in backyards).

LIVESTOCK
SLAUGHTERINGS

Table 10 shows details of slaughterings; numbers include slaughterings in abattoirs, on farms, and in factories producing bacon, etc.

TABLE 10 - LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Classification	Year ended 30th June				
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966 (a)
	'000				
Sheep	1,644.6	1,748.5	1,567.8	1,580.6	1,981.4
Lambs	1,495.2	1,718.2	1,427.8	1,519.4	1,492.7
Cattle & Calves	201.4	254.4	279.2	275.3	277.2
Pigs	232.2	234.5	213.5	240.8	298.3

(a) Preliminary figures.

LIVESTOCK
MORTALITY

The reported losses of livestock from all causes in South Australia for the years ended 31st March, 1962 to 1966, were as follows:-

TABLE 11 - LIVESTOCK MORTALITY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Classification	Year ended 31st March				
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
	'000				
Sheep	496.9	532.3	448.7	455.5	472.1
Lambs (after marking)	143.9	147.9	144.4	139.5	148.6
Cattle	32.1	27.9	21.2	20.5	33.0
Pigs	13.5	13.3	14.0	16.5	18.5

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